

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators

## Boston Metro Area



### Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment** figures for the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy Metropolitan Statistical Area, the State of Massachusetts, and the United States. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** measures price changes or inflation for particular commodities and services at the retail level. The **Producer Price Index (PPI)** measures price changes or inflation for particular commodities and services at the wholesale level and is widely used by business firms as an escalator in long-term contracts. The **Employment Cost Index (ECI)** measures price changes or inflation of labor costs which includes wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits.

Consumer Price Index (1982-84) = 100	March 2006	March 2007	Percent change
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
U.S. City Average	199.8	205.352	2.8
Northeast	212.8	218.334	2.6
Boston	221.3	226.427	2.3
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers</b>			
U.S. City Average	195.3	200.612	2.7
Northeast	209.0	214.517	2.6
Boston	220.5	225.918	2.5
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)</b>	<b>April 2006</b>	<b>April 2007<sup>(p)</sup></b>	<b>Percent change</b>
Finished goods	160.7	165.8	3.2
All commodities	164.3	171.2	4.2
Industrial commodities	168.8	173.7	2.9

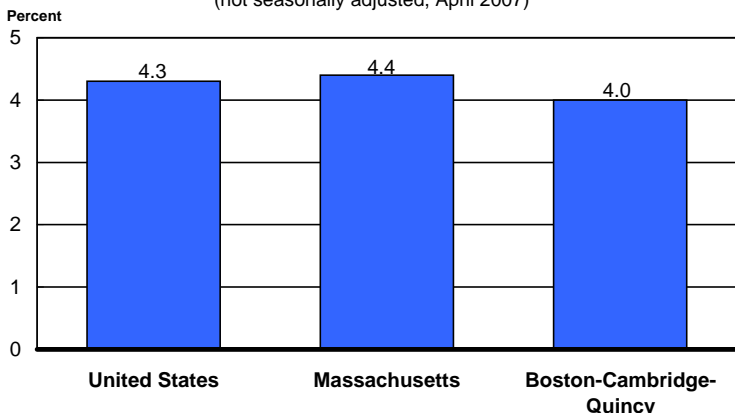
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### Unemployment levels, age 16 years and over (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	April 2006	April 2007 <sup>(p)</sup>	Net change	Percent change
United States	6,804.0	6,532.0	-272.0	-4.0
Massachusetts	161.4	148.1	-13.3	-8.2
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy	108.1	98.9	-9.2	-8.5

p = preliminary

**Unemployment rates, United States,  
Massachusetts, and Boston-Cambridge-Quincy  
Metropolitan Statistical Area**  
(not seasonally adjusted, April 2007)



Employment Cost Index (December 2005 = 100)	March 2006	March 2007	Percent change
<b>Total Compensation-Private Industry</b>			
United States	100.8	104.0	3.2
Northeast	100.9	104.0	3.1
New England	100.7	103.6	2.9
<b>Wages and Salaries-Private Industry</b>			
United States	100.7	104.3	3.6
Northeast	100.8	104.0	3.2
New England	100.7	103.6	2.9
<b>Occupational Wages (selected occupations)</b>	<b>Mean hourly wage (May 2006)</b>		
<b>Boston-Cambridge-Quincy</b>			
Education, training, and library	\$26.14		
Healthcare practitioner and technical	\$34.54		
Food preparation and serving related	\$11.04		
Sales and related	\$21.73		
Office and administrative support	\$17.74		
Construction and extraction	\$26.16		
Installation, maintenance, and repair	\$22.71		
Production	\$16.87		
Transportation and material moving	\$15.84		

### Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	April 2006	April 2007 <sup>(p)</sup>	Net change	Percent change
United States	135,802.0	137,668.0	1,866.0	1.4
Massachusetts	3,233.6	3,266.2	32.6	1.0
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy	2,441.9	2,470.3	28.4	1.2

p = preliminary

### Boston-Cambridge-Quincy MSA Payroll Information by major industry sector

(not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Industry	April 2006	April 2007 <sup>(p)</sup>
Total nonfarm	2,441.9	2,470.3
Construction	100.9	98.5
Manufacturing	222.2	221.8
Trade, transportation and utilities	414.4	414.1
Financial activities	186.1	187.2
Professional and business	393.4	403.7
Education and health services	453.7	467.1
Government	302.7	305.6

p = preliminary

Note: Total includes industries not shown separately.

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The **Northeast Census Region** comprises Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. For more detailed information on **Metropolitan Statistical Areas**, please visit [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/msa\\_def.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/msa_def.htm)